

# Wisconsin Farm to School

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

November 12, 2014 |

In today's Wisconsin Farm to School newsletter, you will find:

- [General Updates](#)
- [New Resources](#)
- [Farm to School Funding Opportunities](#)

## Thanks for an amazing Farm to School Month!

Thank you so much for organizing, participating in, and sharing information related to Farm to School Month! We really want to applaud all your hard work during October, and give a special shout-out to everyone who really made the month a huge success!

Stay tuned for a report on the Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch results in an upcoming newsletter!



South Door County K-5 students and teachers CRUNCH into Wisconsin apples as part of the Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch

## General Updates

Registration for the 2015 Wisconsin Farm to School Summit NOW OPEN!



**Join us for an interactive day of learning, sharing, and meeting new people!**

At the third Wisconsin Farm to School Summit we'll be "Digging In" to farm to school with topics for the experienced and beginning farm to school practitioner. This conference is different than most, featuring a full day of interactive and hands-on activities and networking sessions, along with an exciting keynote from Deborah Kane, National Director of the USDA Farm to School Program. Participants will select one afternoon workshop where they will spend three hours "Digging In" to one of the following farm to school topics. Please note that you will select your afternoon workshop upon registering for the summit.

**For more information – including how your school could win a SALAD BAR donated by Roundy's and United Fresh – and to register – visit**  
<http://www.cias.wisc.edu/2015-f2s-summit/>.

**Tell your garden story by participating in the Wisconsin School Gardens Video Project!** Click [here](#) for more details!

Check out this great [video](#) example!

**Local Host RFP for National Farm to Cafeteria Conference in 2016 – Now Available!**

Last week, The National Farm to School Network (NFSN) announced a request for proposals (RFP) for a local host organization for the 2016 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference. We are currently seeking applications from organizations who are interested in collaborating with NFSN to bring the conference to their home community in the spring/summer of 2016. The deadline for these applications is December 5, 2014 at midnight Eastern Time. For more information, including local host organization requirements, and to download the application, please visit the [National Farm to Cafeteria Conference website](#). If you have any additional questions, please contact us at [conference@farmtoschool.org](mailto:conference@farmtoschool.org).

School Food FOCUS is excited to share the new video, [Collaboration Across the Plate: Hatching New Ideas for Chicken](#)! Chicken is the most popular protein in school meals. Collectively, public schools spend more than \$670 million in chicken purchases annually.

Learn how School Food FOCUS and 15 of the largest school districts in the nation (known collectively as the National Procurement Initiative, or NPI) are leveraging buying power to bring more healthful, regionally sourced and sustainably produced chicken to students.

**Community Seed Resource Program available to support seed saving projects nationwide:** [Seed Savers Exchange](#) and [Seed Matters](#) collaborate to assist emerging seed projects.

In partnership with Seed Matters, an initiative of the Clif Bar Family Foundation, Seed Savers Exchange is assisting community seed projects – seed libraries, seed exchanges, seed banks and numerous other community-focused outreach and education organizations – in spreading awareness about the importance and value of garden seed stewardship. The two primary goals of the [Community Seed Resource Program](#) (CSRP) are: to provide **free educational resources and support** for community seed projects, and to promote the exchange of seed, knowledge and skills. To learn more about the Community Seed Resource Program and apply, please visit us at <https://exchange.seedsavers.org/csrp/prequalify.aspx>

## New Resources

Check out the [November Wisconsin School Garden Initiative Newsletter!](#) Chock full of information about gardens and literacy, this newsletter includes a great book list of garden-themed books!

### Healthier Snacks and Beverages Tip Sheets



We are pleased to announce the release of five [tip sheets](#) sharing strategies for selling and serving healthier à la carte and snack foods and beverages in schools while still maintaining revenues. As schools and districts work to implement USDA's new [Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards](#), these tip sheets share strategies from districts that have successfully implemented healthier competitive foods standards, sold more fruits and vegetables, taught nutrition to students, and made cafeterias more enticing for students.

### Healthy Food in Your Community: A Toolkit for Policy Change

Check out the [Healthy Food in Your Community: A Toolkit for Policy Change](#) and [register for a web-based discussion](#) with successful food policy leaders to learn how we can create change in our communities. For questions about the toolkit or how to make it available online or at your events, email Danielle Fox at [dfox@ucsusa.org](mailto:dfox@ucsusa.org).

### **New Training Program: Food Safety from Farm and Garden to Preschool**

The University of Massachusetts Department of Nutrition and the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension have developed a free, online, interactive food safety program for Farm to Preschool programs. Food Safety from Farm and Garden to Preschool Training Program is available online at [www.umass.edu/safefoodfarm2kid](http://www.umass.edu/safefoodfarm2kid). This free, self-paced program was created to help early childcare educators, foodservice staff, volunteers and parents understand the importance of reducing the risk of food safety related to fresh fruits and vegetables for young children.

Printable resources such as Best Practices Planning Tools, resources, and Certificates of Completion are available and may be able to be used towards Professional Development requirements. This project was supported through USDA NIFA project award 2011-5110-30996. For more information on the program and to get started, visit [www.umass.edu/safefoodfarm2kid](http://www.umass.edu/safefoodfarm2kid).

## **Farm to School Funding Opportunities**

### **DonorsChoose.org Seeks Submissions for K-12 Teach the Planet Challenge**

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30, 2014

Four \$10,000 prizes and two dozen DonorChoose gift cards will be awarded in support of high-impact hands-on classroom projects that promote sustainability education.

### **Applications Invited for Terri Lynne Lokoff/Children's Tylenol National Child Care Teacher Awards**

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 8, 2014

Fifty pre-K teachers will be selected to receive grants of \$1,000 in honor of their dedication to providing high-quality child care.



67th Alice in Dairyland Zoey Brooks visits with 4K and kindergarten students in Richland County.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact DATCP's Sarah Elliott at 608-224-5046 or [sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov).